

# Safford Church of Christ

3888 S Hwy 191, Safford, AZ 85546

## 29 December 2013

### Topics

**A.M. Bible Class: When The Counselor Comes (John 15:26-16:4)!**

**A.M. Lesson: Our Goal (2 Corinthians 5:1-10)!**

**P.M. Lesson: True Fasting (Isaiah 58)  
Wednesday: Singing Night**

Pulpit Evangelist

*Ken Knowlton: 428-3494*

Elders

*Greg Briggs: 428-8756*

*John Cunningham: 428-0895*

Sunday Bible Class	10:00 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship	11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship	6:30 P.M.
Wednesday Evening Class	6:30 P.M.
Thursday Ladies Bible Class	10:00 A.M.

## When I get into shape...

There's this story about an overweight and out-of-shape fellow who started a swimming regiment. For many months, he had walked for weight-loss but later reasoned swimming would be a faster way of shedding his accumulated and unnecessary poundage.

Three times weekly he went to the local gym to make good use of its state-of-the art indoor pool, but he did so acutely aware that he was not like the other swimmers. He watched out of the corner of his eye, awed by the maneuvers performed. With ease, chiseled and sculpted bodies performed their picture-perfect flips and somersaults and dives while he held on to the pool's edge, occasionally bobbing up and down showing off his ability to hold his breath while pinching his nose. None of the expert

swimmers seemed to give him much attention so, after three weeks in the pool, he returned to the safety and security of walking. Discouraged and ashamed, he walked round and round the track and said to himself, "When I get into shape, I'll return to the pool."

I wonder how many people use that same line of reasoning when it comes to going to church, or more accurately, coming to worship. "When I get into shape, I'll go." "When I get my life in order, I'll come." "I've got a few things in my life that I need to first straighten out; then I'll come to church." These attitudes reflect faulty reasoning. These thoughts assume wrongly that everyone else is perfect but we are inadequate. These ideas suggest that the church is more a safe haven and sanctuary for the self-righteous than it is a hospital for broken and hurting hearts.

When worshipers gather to worship, everyone assembled is on equal footing. All are sick. All are sinners. All need God's grace. All need God's forgiveness. The call of Jesus is not "Get it all right, then come." The call of Jesus is "Come, and then get it right." Jesus said, "I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." The call of the church must be identical to the call of Jesus.

So if you don't feel "good enough" or "in shape," that's exactly the kind of heart for which God is looking. Get back into the pool! See you Sunday.  
Coy Hathcock, Westwood Church of Christ, McMinnville, TN

## Prayer List:

*Healing: Ben Atchley's family, Jerry Robinson's mother Norma. Mike and Sandy Cavasos, Faye Atchley, Nicolas and Annie Self, Jonda Gardner, Dave Morse, Richard Tuey.*

Back issues are posted at  
<http://saffordchurchofchrist.org>



# JANUARY 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day  Singing Night	2	3	4
5	6	7 Orthodox Christmas	8	9	10	11
12 Kaetlynn Kramer Birthday	13	14 Orthodox New Year  Sharon Cunningham Birthday	15	16	17	18
19 Potluck	20 ML King Day	21	22 Ukrainian Unity Day	23	24	25 Tatiana Day
26	27	28	29	30	31 Chinese New Year  Ky Kescoli Birthday	

December 2013							February 2014						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7							1
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
29	30	31					23	24	25	26	27	28	

Calendars by Vertex42.com  
© 2013 Vertex42 LLC. Free to print.